

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have canceled claims 24-45 without prejudice and added new claims 46-79. Accordingly, claims 46-79 are pending in the subject application. Support for the specific compounds listed in claim 77 may be found in the specification and or specifically in example 8 (compound AE-6429), example 10 (Compound AE-6456), example 28 (compound AE-6512), example 29 (compound AE-6516), example 32 (compound AE-6520), example 36 (compounds AE-6537 and 6540) and example 39 (compounds AE-6551 and 6563).

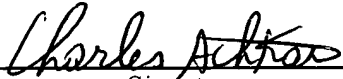
Applicants maintain that the above amendments raise no issue of new matter.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition to be allowed and the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 15, 2002:

Charles C. Achkar

Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature

October 15, 2002

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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